HALIBUT FISHERY.

The halibut fishery of Alaska comes next to the salmon fishery in production and value of product. It comprises seven fishing grounds, which from east to west are as follows: Noyes Island, Coronation Island, Cape Spencer, Yakutat, Yakataga, Cape Cleare, and Portlock Banks. All of these localities are visited by the larger vessels of the halibut fleet, the Yakutat grounds and Portlock Banks producing the bulk of the catch delivered at Puget Sound and British Columbia ports. The smaller vessels frequent the inshore grounds of southeast Alaska, and deliver their catches principally to Alaskan ports, although the larger of these frequently go to Prince Rupert where a better price is obtained for their fish. Any boat that makes a catch of 10,000 pounds or more found it advantageous to make delivery at the Canadian Port rather than at Petersburg or Ketchikan, not only because they received a better price but rather for the reason that boats could be discharged immediately and reoutfit for another fishing trip without the loss of time which invariably resulted when delivery was made at Alaskan ports, particularly Petersburg. Fishermen had a just grievance against certain fish companies. Frequently the fishermen who exercised the most care in packing and icing their catch on the fishing grounds, were forced to accept a lower price for it, or submit to an unnecessary delay in discharging with the attendant risk of some loss of fish. Other boats whose catch was handled with less care, were allowed to discharge in a short time after reaching port, apparently for the reason that they obtained their ice from the fish companies. This unreasonable discrimination was in itself enough to divert considerable business to Prince Rupert.

The total catch of halibut on the Pacific coast was approximately 60,000,000 pounds, of which probably 30,000,000 pounds were taken from the grounds contiguous to the coast of Alaska. Available statistics show, however, that only a little more than 13,000,000 pounds credited to Alaska. Undoubtedly a large part of the halibut delivered at Prince Rupert are also taken on these grounds, so that the estimate as above given is substantially correct.

Those chiefly engaged in the halibut industry in Alaska in 1917, were the Alaska Coast Fish Co., at Douglas; Booth Fisheries Co., at Sitka; Columbia & Northern Fishing & Packing Co., at Wrangell; Glacier Fish Co., at Petersburg and at Scow Bay where the barge Glory of the Seas was used as a floating cold-storage plant; Juneau Cold Storage Co., and National Independent Fisheries Co., at Juneau; Taku Camming & Cold Storage Co., at Taku Harbor; New England Fish Co., and Washington Fish & Oyster Co., at Ketchikan; and the San Juan Fishing & Packing Co., Inc., at Seward. Buyers for the Ripley Fish Co., were located at Petersburg and Ketchikan.

The New England Fish Co. suffered the loss of the steamer Manhattan off Cape Spencer during a severe storm on November 15, 1917. This vessel (134 tons net) was valued at \$125,000. The loss of life in the halibut industry is not definitely known. The only reported loss was that of one fisherman who was accidently killed.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

The investment in the halibut industry in Alaska was \$2,200,987 in 1917, as compared with \$2,149,311 in 1916, an increase of \$51,676.

The number of persons employed in this fishery declined from 1,116 in 1916 to 909 in 1917, the difference having been absorbed by the salmon

industry and credited to it. The halibut fisheries produced a total of 13,153,411 pounds, valued at \$1,120,226. This is an increase of 1,657,854 pounds over the production in 1916. In a comparison of the selling price of halibut by independent fishing vessels at the ports of Seattle, Prince Rupert, and Ketchikan, it appears that the average price per pound received by the fishermen throughout the year was $9\frac{1}{2}$ cents at Ketchikan, $12\frac{1}{2}$ cents at Prince Rupert, and $15\frac{1}{2}$ cents at Seattle. The average price at Petersburg was probably not higher than $7\frac{1}{2}$ or 8 cents per pound. The Ketchikan figures are based on prices paid in January, February, March, June, August, and September. Quotations for the other months are not reported, but it is improbable that the general average would be materially changed by their inclusion. Prices for the months named ranged from $12\frac{1}{4}$ cents in February to 7 cents in March.

Prices for Prince Rupert are for the entire year and are 33 1/3 per cent higher than at the Alaskan port. The highest price was 183 cents per pound in October, and the lowest 7 cents in March.

Seattle prices average 66 2/3 per cent higher than those at Ketch-ikan. Halibut sold in May at 8 cents per pound and in September at 30 cents.

INVESTMENT IN THE ALASKA HALIBUT FISHERIES . IN 1917.

Items	.Number.	Value.	Items.	Number.	Value.
Fishing vessels: Steamer and gas. Tonnage Sailing Tomage Launches	2,536 1 2,247 3	\$954,090 153,000 . 2,892 750,000	Dories & Scows Fishing apparatus Shore and fixed property Total	• • • • • • • •	\$18,800 57,108 265,100 2,200,98

PERSONS ENGAGED IN THE ALASKA HALIBUT FISHERIES IN 1917.

Races.	Number.
Whites	
Total	

PRODUCT OF THE ALASKA HALIBUT FISHERY IN 1917.

Products.	Pounds.	Values.
Halibut: Fresh (including local)Frozen	7,038,283 6,115,128	\$605,205 515,021
Total	13.153.411	1.120.226

HALIBUT FISHERY.

The halibut fishery of Alaska comes next to the salmon fishery in production and value of product. It comprises seven fishing grounds, which from east to west are as follows: Noyes Island, Coromation Island, Cape Spencer, Yakutat, Yakataga, Cape Cleare, and Portlock Banks. All of these localities are visited by the larger vessels of the halibut fleet, the Yakutat grounds and Portlock Banks producing the bulk of the catch delivered at Puget Sound and British Columbia ports. The smaller vessels frequent the inshore grounds of southeast Alaska, and deliver their catches principally to Alaskan ports, although the larger of these frequently go to Prince Rupert where a better price is obtained for their fish. Any boat that makes a catch of 10,000 pounds or more found it advantageous to make delivery at the Canadian Port rather than at Petersburg or Ketchikan, not only because they received a better price but rather for the reason that boats could be discharged immediately and reoutfit for another fishing trip without the loss of time which invariably resulted when delivery was made at Alaskan ports, particularly Petersburg. Fishermen had a just grievance against certain fish companies. Frequently the fishermen who exercised the most care in packing and icing their catch on the fishing grounds, were forced to accept a lower price for it, or submit to an unnecessary delay in discharging with the attendant risk of some loss of fish. Other boats whose catch was handled with less care, were allowed to discharge in a short time after reaching port, apparently for the reason that they obtained their ice from the fish companies. This unreasonable discrimination was in itself enough to divert considerable business to Prince Rupert.

The total catch of halibut on the Pacific coast was approximately 60,000,000 pounds, of which probably 30,000,000 pounds were taken from the grounds contiguous to the coast of Alaska. Available statistics show, however, that only a little more than 13,000,000 pounds were credited to Alaska. Undoubtedly a large part of the halibut delivered at Prince Rupert are also taken on these grounds, so that the estimate as above given is substantially correct.

Those chiefly engaged in the halibut industry in Alaska in 1917, were the Alaska Coast Fish Co., at Douglas; Booth Fisheries Co., at Sitka; Columbia & Northern Fishing & Packing Co., at Wrangell; Glacier Fish Co., at Petersburg and at Scow Bay where the barge Glory of the Seas was used as a floating cold-storage plant; Juneau Cold Storage Co., and National Independent Fisheries Co., at Juneau; Taku Camming & Cold Storage Co., at Taku Harbor; New England Fish Co., and Washington Fish & Oyster Co., at Ketchikan; and the San Juan Fishing & Packing Co., Inc., at Seward. Buyers for the Ripley Fish Co., were located at Petersburg and Ketchikan.

The New England Fish Co. suffered the loss of the steamer Manhattan off Cape Spencer during a severe storm on November 15, 1917. This vessel (134 tons net) was valued at \$125,000. The loss of life in the halibut industry is not definitely known. The only reported loss was that of one fisherman who was accidently killed.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

The investment in the halibut industry in Alaska was \$2,200,987 in 1917, as compared with \$2,149,311 in 1916, an increase of \$51,676. The number of persons employed in this fishery declined from 1,116 in 1916 to 909 in 1917, the difference having been absorbed by the salmon

industry and credited to it. The halibut fisheries produced a total of 13,153,411 pounds, valued at \$1,120,226. This is an increase of 1,657,854 pounds over the production in 1916. In a comparison of the selling price of halibut by independent fishing vessels at the ports of Seattle, Prince Rupert, and Ketchikan, it appears that the average price per pound received by the fishermen throughout the year was $9\frac{1}{2}$ cents at Ketchikan, $12\frac{1}{2}$ cents at Prince Rupert, and $15\frac{1}{2}$ cents at Seattle. The average price at Petersburg was probably not higher than $7\frac{1}{2}$ or 8 cents per pound. The Ketchikan figures are based on prices paid in January, February, March, June, August, and September. Quotations for the other months are not reported, but it is improbable that the general average would be materially changed by their inclusion. Prices for the months named ranged from $12\frac{1}{4}$ cents in February to 7 cents in March.

Prices for Prince Rupert are for the entire year and are 33 1/3 per cent higher than at the Alaskan port. The highest price was 18% cents per pound in October, and the lowest 7 cents in March.

Seattle prices average 66 2/3 per cent higher than those at Ketchikan. Halibut sold in May at 8 cents per pound and in September at 30 cents.

INVESTMENT IN THE ALASKA HALIBUT FISHERIES. IN 1917.

Items	Number.	. Value	Items	Number	Value
Fishing vessels: Steamer and gas. Tommage Sailing Tommage Launches	136 2,536 1 2,247 3	\$954,090 153,000 2,892 750,000	Dories & Scows Fishing apparatus Shore and fixed property. Total	******	\$18,800 57,105 265,100 2,200,987

PERSONS ENGAGED IN THE ALASKA HALIBUT FISHERIES IN 1917.

Reces.	Number.
Whites	
Total	

PRODUCT OF THE ALASKA HALIBUT FISHERY IN 1917.

Products.	Pounds.	. Values.
Halibut: Fresh (including local)	7,038,283 6,115,128	\$605 ,205 515,021
Total	13,153,411	1,120,226

Halitat Bushery The halibut Jishery of alaska comes next to the salmon fishery in pro-duction and value of product. It Comprises seven Jesting ground, Which from east to west are as Jollono: noyer Deland, Coronation Dlank, Cope Spencer, Gakulat Yakataga, Cope Cleare, and Gerttock Banks. all of these localities are visited by the larger ressel of the habitut gleet, The Yakutah grounds and Portlock Banks producing the falk of the Dalth Delivered at Sentitle Proget Sound and British Columbia ports. The mealle velsels Jequent The

nishere grounds of sonthers alaska, and deliver them colete principally to alaskan porto although the larger of these frequently go to Orince Tupert where a letter frice took that makes a catch of 10000 ponudo or more found it advantageons to make delivery at the Conrdian God rother than at Petersburg or Ketchikan, not only because they received a Letter price but rather for the reason that toats could he discharged immediately and reoutsit for another fishing trip without The loss of time which invariably resulted when delivery was made at alaskan ports, particularly Celes-Turg. Fishermen hod a just

grievance against certain. fish companies. Frequently the fishermen who exercised the most Dare in packing and wing their cutch on the Fishing grounds, were found to accept a lover frice for the Fire or sofmit to an unnecessary delay in discharging with the allendant risk of some loss of fish. Other toats whose calch was handled with less done were allowed to discharge in a short time after reaching port, apparently for the reason that they the fish companies. This unressonable Discrimination was in itself enough to divert considerable business to Prince Rupert. The told onland of halitus on the

Tacific was approximately 60,000,000 poundo, of which probably 30,000,000 pounds were taken from the grounds sontiquous to the wast of alaska. available statistics show however that only a little more than 13,000,000 founds were credited to alaska. Imdonttelly a large part of The halibut delivered at Prince Rupert are also loken on these grounds, so that the estimate as above given is ontstantially correct. Tusert) the shore chiefly sugaged in the Kalitat industry in alaska u 1917, were the alaska Coast Fish Cr., M Douglas; Booth Busheries Co., at Sitka; Columbia - northern Pushing & Packing Co, at Wrangele;

Gilverin Fish Co, at Petersburg and of the Seas was used as a floating Colt storage plant, Juneau Cold Storage Do., at and national melipen. dent Froteries Co., at Juneaux. Faku Canning & Cold Slorage Co., at Faku Harbor, new Dugland First Co., and Washington Frish , Oyster Co., at Ketchikan; and the Lan Juan Fishing Brugers for the Riper Fish Co. Were. located at Petersburg and Ketchikan. The new England Fish Co. suffered The loss of the sleaver manhattan Of Cope Spencer during a severe storm on november 15, 1917. This ressel (134 tons 24) was valued MX/25,000.

0120,000. The loss of life in the habitute industry is not definitely known. The only reported loss was that of one Jishermen who was accidently killed of habitat by modependent John, results at the ports of Seattle, Prince Anpert, and Retchikan, it appears received by the Fisherman, was 9'2 cents at Helchikan, 122 cents at Prime Rupert, and 15 2 cents at Leattle. The average force at Petersburg was protatly not higher than 72 or 8 sents for found. Continued on page Z

on frices trist no January, February march, June, august, and Septem-Ler. Lustations for the other months are not reported, but it is improbable that the general arrage would be materially Thought by their melusion. Trices for ranged from 124 cents in February to 7 cents in march. Orice for Prince Chiffeet are For the entire year and are 33 3 per cent higher than at the alaskan port. The highest free, mis 18 % agulo per found in October, and the lowest 7 dents in march. Seattle prices average 66/3 per cent higher than those at Keletikan. Holitat sold in may at 8 cent for pound and in Seplember at 30 cents.

- All and a second a second and						
Irristment.	· F	alasi	La Halifu	1 Tesher	is	
Hims	hun fe	7 shu	20 Deins		14	Talue
Fishing Vessly	140	4	Dones & Sex	200	299	18,800
Theore and goo	136	954090	Fishing of	paralis		57.105
Jonnage	2536	1	There and f	used Jusperty		265,100
Lailing	2247	153,000		•		b
Lameho	3	2,892	For	al	X	2,200,987
Out of the		750,000				
Persons Eng	naed	in the a	Ruska Halib	nt Jisher	Lin	1917
Mile nations	(Race				newty
While	and the control of the same work to the control of the					899
nations						. 10
			Fals	1		909
			. 25 450			
Product of	La al	aska H	what Fish	erils in	-191	7.
	Pro	duct		Pom	6	Value
Holibat:						
Holibat: Fresh (melude Fregen	ug loc	of)		7038	283	515021
orgen			мых достуде отнивация по того был задавления на достуде от столожения по того в того в подаваления по того в т Потом	13 153	41	11.20,226
V				, , ,		,
				•		